MONTEREY NEWS

September 2015

Est. 1970 Vol. XLV · Number 9

The Town

By Jacob Edelman

Notes on select board meetings from July 27 through August 17

Second-home Owners' Meeting

The second-home owners' meeting was held on August 8 at the town hall at 10 a.m. The general purpose of the annual meeting is to allow second-home owners a more distinct voice in town affairs, as well as to answer questions and concerns about the town in a meeting specifically designated to discuss their issues. The more than thirty second-home owners in attendance raised many topics for discussion.

A common interest was cell phone and internet coverage in Monterey. Select board member Steven Weisz apprised attendees that he is working toward having a second cell tower constructed in Monterey within a year. He also noted that the town hopes to have full of high-speed internet coverage within two-to-three years. The concept of establishing the position of assistant harbormaster, as well as other lake issues, also came up.

Rob Hoogs

2015 Official Coffee Club Photo taken on August 2, 2015

Front Row: Dell Tryon, Steve Schwartz, Gerry Clarin, Larry Klein, Richard Nault, Stan Ross, Richard Tryon, Bobbie Ellenoff

Middle Row: Michael Storch, Bill Enlund, George Cain, George Emmons, Jim Mazza, Steve Dube, Steve Kahn, Bill Bell

Back Row: Steve Weisz, Ray Tryon, Larry Silk, Charles Brandwine, Bill Johnson, Ray Coddington, Roger Tryon, Dennis Lynch

Missing:Kenn Basler,Ed Briggs,Neil Ellenoff, Colleen Johnson, Joe Wasiuk

Lake Matters

Assistant Harbormaster

At the second-home owners' meeting, attendees raised concerns that the harbormaster, currently Police Chief Backhaus, generally does not undertake lake patrols, and it was requested that an assistant harbormaster be appointed as a regular lake monitor. This was later addressed in some detail at the August 17 select board meeting. Chief Backhaus stated that he has no problems with appointing someone to be the assistant harbormaster, but that he will put together a list of potential difficulties and concerns relating to such an appointment.

The purpose of an assistant harbormaster would not be to police the waters and issue citations. An assistant harbormaster could provide specific suggestions to boaters on how to adhere to water regulations relating to boat capacity, mooring, water speed, etc. The assistant harbor master may also have a police radio with which to call the chief in the event of an incident requiring his attention. The assistant, it was noted, would have a role akin to a speed radar sign: not to dispense any tickets, but to inform and slow down offenders.

Town Boat

The idea of acquiring a town boat was also "floated" at the second-home owners' meeting. At the August 17 select board meeting, select board chair Scott Jenssen and Steve Weisz seemed cautiously in favor of the idea, while Kenn Basler appeared to be opposed. The idea was to have some kind of identifiable craft that the harbormaster or assistant would use in case of an emergency-type situation, and perhaps for patroling the lake as well. The fire company stores a fan boat in the firehouse, but there has never been a call for its use. According to the board, the first time it was tested, it dipped into the water nose-down.

Basler suggested that the best idea would be to have an assistant harbormaster or two who own personal boats and have some kind of identifying flag. They would then "work with other boaters and provide suggestions" for better boating "without being a bully."

Lake Summit

The select board has proposed a "lake summit", and tentatively scheduled it for September 30. The summit would be a discussion of topics related to lakes Buel and Garfield. It would largely be organized by Steven Weisz, and will involve members of the Lake Buel Association, the Friends of Lake Garfield, someone from the select board, and perhaps the director of operations, Shawn Tryon, and a representative from the police department. The summit is aimed to be a "working meeting," in the words of Weisz, not a general open meeting. Discussion topics will include Lake Buel's flooding problems, weed issues in both lakes, and perhaps an assistant harbormaster position. Those in attendance will brainstorm ways to fix the problems, and try to assess what it may cost per year to achieve the identified goals.

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Speeding

It is often easy to ease up on the brakes when rolling down a hill, or put the pedal to the metal when in a rush to drive into Great Barrington or somewhere else. This attitude toward speeding, however, has become a recurring problem for many residents, and a delimma for police department with complaints about both over- and under-enforcement. A Beartown Mountain Road resident attended the August 17 select board meeting to raise this issue. He described how cars seem not to brake when going down the road past the beach where there are often kids in the road. He also commented that speeding often seems more prevalent on weekends, especially from the Hupi Road intersection all the way into the center of town.

The resident highlighted a lack of speed limit signs in some areas. The board remarked that the highway department had ordered more signs, and that both the director of operations, Shawn Tryon, and the police department are determining where speed limit signs with fixed speed readers may be appropriate.

Board chair Scott Jenssen recalled how several years ago it was made a policy that Monterey policing should be done more like Egremont when confronting speeding. The rule would be to stick to the limit, maybe give drivers a little bit of leeway but leave them wary that someone might be waiting around the corner with a radar gun. The select board decided at the August 17 meeting to request more pullovers be made and more tickets be issued, with no more leniency. Jenssen stated, "If you're five to seven miles per hour over, you might talk yourself into a ticket, and if you're ten miles over it is a ticket."

Highway Department

At the August 3 select board meeting, Shawn Tryon requested that the town purchase a wood chipper and forgo the recurring hassle and expense of renting. The highway department normally rents a machine for one month each year at a cost of $5,000. According to Tryon it takes a long time to clear brush from the sides of the road, and dedicating a solid month of the highway crew's time to clearing brush for the sake of having it done during the one rental month is inefficient. Tryon stated, "We can multiply our work by many times with the chipper."

Tryon also said that it would be possible for his crew to chip wood at all times of the year, so brush could be cleared when there is less highway activity, such as in winter, or when there is an immediate need. He estimated that a proposed used chipper (from John Field) would cost $21,500. Scott Jenssen commented, "As a select board member, it's not up to me to tell you what you need to do your job right." The board agreed with Tryon's proposed purchase.

Also raised at recent meetings was the issue of the New Marlboro Road bridge. The temporary bridge purchased for the road following the closure of the existing bridge earlier this summer is considered too narrow and will be replaced by a second temporary bridge hopefully sometime before winter. The original temporary, now owned by the town, will be used elsewhere, according to the board. At the August 17 board meeting, selectman Kenn Basler requested that he be given the lead when dealing with the Department of Transportation, who expressed concern about the bridge.

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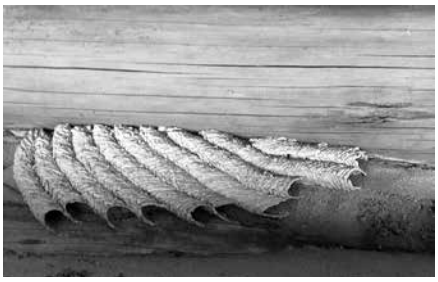
Grant Writer

At recent meetings, the board has discussed creating the position of a town grant writer. On August 3, it was reported that the town is allowed to have such a paid grant writer and that the writer can be remunerated with a percentage of awarded grants. This is a common arrangement for towns. It's a win/win situation, where the town has someone who's seeking and preparing grants, and the person writing the grants is compensated for their successful efforts. According to the board, principal assessor Donald Clawson has expressed a desire to create a position like this for a number of years.

The idea was also floated to share a grant writer with another town, but this was quickly shot down after it was realized that it would not be possible because of inter-town competition for some grants. The position of grant writer, if it is to be formed, will need to be established at a special town meeting.



Bonner McAllester

Mud dauber wasp nest

Health Fair

Monterey Fire House

Saturday, October 3, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Check out your health
Learn valuable health information
Make contacts with area health care providers

Community Health Program, Fairview Hospital,
and the Monterey Fire company are some of the organizations
that will be represented.

refreshments will be served.
See the Council on Aging page at Mountereyma.gov

Sponsored by the Monterey Council on Aging.

Knox Trail Inn
Free Concert

Miss Paula and the Twangbusters will perform Saturday, September 26, at 7:30 p.m., at the Knox Trail Inn on Route 23 in East Otis. At this free concert, presented by the Otis Cultural Council, the band will play their own blend of honky-tonk, boogie, blues, and bop with retro-cool flair and a modern edge. Put on your dancing shoes and enjoy the high-energy blend of rootsy jukejoint rhythms and soulful blues.

A buffet dinner will be available before the show at 6 p.m. Dinner reservations are required by noon on September 23 by calling 269-4008. Cash or check only.

Council on Aging
September News

The trip to Chesterwood has been canceled due to low enrollment. Hasn't this been a busy summer? However, the cruise on the Erie Canal is scheduled for September 24, and it looks like it is full. If you'd like to be put on the waiting list, contact Maryellen Brown at mbrown007@earthlink.net. Now we'll hope for a pretty fall day.

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission is offering information on the Home Modification Loan Program. The state-funded program provides loans to make modifications to the primary, permanent residence of elders, adults with disabilities, and families with children with disabilities. Such modifications allow people to remain in their homes and live more independently in their communities. To learn more, search online for "MA Home Modification Loans" or call Susan Gillam at 1-800-245-6543.

Add October 3 to your calendar for the Health Fair at the Monterey Fire House.

—Kay Purcell

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Wednesday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Monterey Library Notes

This is a thank-you to everyone…

This month we really need to thank everyone who helps us through what is always a busy summer.

The volunteers who help our staff allow us to keep up with serving you as completely as possible. They show up, even though they have all the same busy summer commitments we all have, and get the books back on the shelves. They process the new materials and help keep everything in order. Thank you, volunteers.

A thank-you to all who helped with the children's summer reading program. Scott Cole and the Monterey General Store donated ice cream to those children who read. The Friends of the Monterey Library and the Monterey Cultural Council funded one of the best lineups of performers we've had. Magic, singing, storytelling—it was hard to tell if the children were more entertained than the parents. The performers were that good. The performers all spoke of how they love coming here to be with our audiences. All of them relied on audience participation and even many shy children had their chance to help out. I think all of the hands that were cut off by the magicians are back on and functional.

Thanks again to the folks who helped with the book sale. It is a huge effort, so we're glad the return justifies it.

Thanks to Bernie Drew who spoke about his newest book, *Literary Luminaries*. The adult book discussion group was treated to some discussion of Sigrid Undset, a Nobel Prize winner, whose book they had recently read. Don't forget to check out the calendar each month and see what the group is reading next. For September 28, it is *Under the Wide and Starry Sky,* by Nancy Horan. With the new website it is easy to click on the entry and link to details about the book.

A very special thanks to those who helped out with the Knox Gallery. The *clay. light.tea* exhibit was phenomenal. The tea ceremony was well attended. The fragrance of the fresh lilies in the pottery made the library a very special place to be this summer. It is hard to overstate how much work went into that exhibit. Michael Marcus and Tasja Keetman spent countless days setting it up, and our committee worked with them along the way. A very special thanks to them, and please remember that they can be found most nights at Bizen on Railroad Street in Great Barrington, and they would be glad to discuss their art with you. Our gallery committee has somehow found a way to pull all this together, and they do so again and again.

Please check out our new website MontereyMassLibrary.org. While many of the pages are still in progress, and will remain so as long as this library continues to be dynamic, the Knox Gallery page is a real treat to look at. We hope to continue to raise the bar. Of course, you can also support the gallery just by coming in, and every purchase supports the library as well as the artist.

We are moving ahead with hiring a project manager to oversee an architect to improve our facility. We thank our patrons for your patience as we slog through grant regulations. Next year by this time we should have some idea of the direction we'll take to update your library. Thank you for making all of us here feel we are providing an important service to Monterey.

—Mark Makuc
Library Director
MontereyMassLibrary.org

Proposed Transfer Station

At right is the design for the new transfer station. It will be adjacent to the existing transfer station, at a slightly higher elevation off Gould Road.

You can see that, compared to the existing transfer station, the new one will be considerably larger. it will provide sequential access to specialized bins before reaching the bins for household waste categories, and the Swap Shop area will be well away from heavier traffic areas by the trash compactor.

The new transfer station will be located entirely on land currently owned by the town, as the partial boundary lines show.

The town plans to provide contracting services directly instead of hiring a general contractor. This will permit the town to accept bids for different aspects of the project (site preparation, formwork, concrete, electrical, carpentry, etc.). While the town expects to save money by doing the contracting, this also opens the door to bidding by local companies.

They may break ground sometime in September, with the goal of having the new station in service next spring.

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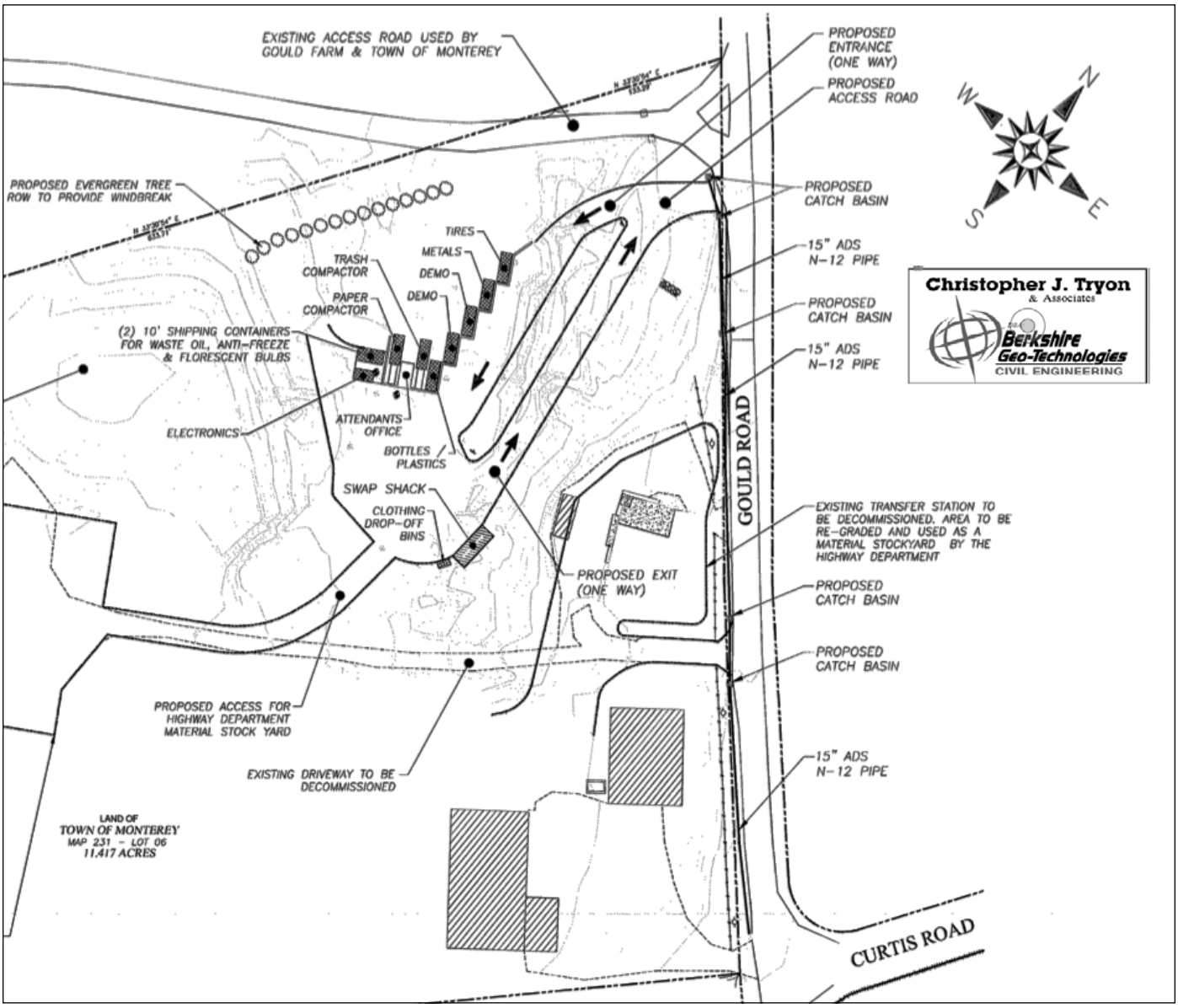

Conservation Commission Needs New Members

The conservation commission performs a valuable and vital function for the town of Monterey by protecting the wetland areas of our town. Our town is fortunate to have a strong group on the Conservation Commission with Dave Dempsey and Tim Lovett as co-chairs, along with Pat Edlestein and Dennis Lynch. Even considering the current group, the commission would be stronger with the addition of a few new members to carry out important responsibilities and support strong decision-making.

Wetland resource areas provide critical habitat to wildlife and help maintain the aesthetic beauty of our town. They also provide priceless yet "free" services, including:

- Drinking water purification
- Groundwater recharge
- Flood control
- Pollution prevention

The Massachusetts Conservation Commission Act, passed in 1957, authorized each town in Massachusetts to establish a locally appointed municipal agency to plan for natural resource protection, acquire important land and water areas, and manage these properties for conservation and passive recreation. Permitting for any development project begins with the conservation commission.

The conservation commission is accepting letters of interest from residents to fill a vacancy on the commission for a three-year term. The commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Residents willing to serve are encouraged to send a letter of interest, either by email to admin@montereyma.gov or by regular mail to Monterey Conservation Commission, P.O. Box 308, Monterey, MA 01245.

Knox Gallery
Fall Shows

Aftermath, comprised of Mariam Stephan's recent black-and-white ink drawings on light-colored paper, will be on view at the Knox Gallery through October 10.

In Stephan's beautifully rendered drawings, images of imagined precarious and intricate structures evoke tension between intimacy and alienation. At the reception on August 14, Stephan spoke about the connections between her visual work, recent personal experiences, and Franz Kafka's short stories.

As a part of the Monterey Library, we were intrigued by Stephan's discussion of the junction of visual and written influences within her process. We hope to explore this theme in future exhibits. Stephan described how Kafka's work came to her mind as her mother declined from Alzheimer's. The artist had previously understood Kafka's outlook as farfetched and absurd, but during her time of tremendous personal loss, his worlds seemed close to her reality. His themes and titles wove into her process.

Stephan lives and works in North Carolina where she teaches painting and drawing at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. Stephan exhibits regularly and has received many awards, including a Fulbright to study in Egypt in 2011. Please see the August issue of *Monterey News* for more details about the work and the artist.

Coming up: Paintings by local artist Ilene Spiewak will open in mid-October, and our winter community exhibit, *4 Elements: Earth, Air, Fire, Water*, will open on Friday evening, December 4. All our local artists are invited to participate.

Maureen Banner

Mariam Aziza Stephan

We envision that *4 Elements* may refer to media used or subject matters, but we welcome more broadly imagined vantages by some of our contributing artists. We hope this project serves as an impetus for new work and look forward to seeing what you discover. Artists working in any two- or three- dimensional media are encouraged to participate. Please look for application specifics and dates in next month's *Monterey News*.

All exhibits can be viewed during library hours. Thanks to the Friends of the Monterey Library for supporting the Knox Gallery and to the Massachusetts and Monterey Cultural Councils for the grants that underwrite our artists' talks.

Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, 452 Main Road, Monterey, MA, 528-3795. Facebook.com/Knox Gallery. @Knox_Gallery on Twitter.

—MaryPaul Yates

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Cultural Council Grant Applications

The Monterey Cultural Council announces the availability of state funds to support cultural events for our community. In general these are small grants to offset the costs of cultural activities including any or all of the arts and exposition or exploration of the natural world. Typically, there are many more applicants than available dollars to support them. Still— we encourage you to apply because these activities, classes, nature walks, and other events enrich our life in Monterey. Our priorities for granting include support for activities that showcase local craftspeople and artists and associations, as well as offer a wide variety of activities for our townspeople.

Only the official state application form may be used to apply. The applications may be downloaded from the Massachusetts Cultural Council website: mass-culture.org. Application forms will be available at the library, general store, town hall, and Roadside Cafe, by September 1. Grant applications are due no later than October 15, verified by postmark. Completed applications can be mailed to Monterey Cultural Council, PO Box 282, Monterey, MA 01245.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact us by email.

—Fiona DeRis and Pat Salomon
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Julie Shapiro
Summer Into Fall Exhibitions

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to be included in a few current exhibitions. If you find yourself near these galleries, stop by and take a look.

Exquisite, a group show of collaborative works on paper, opened August 15 and runs through September 19, at LABspace. LABspace gallery, founded by Susan Jennings (who, as you may remember, worked here in Monterey, at the general store) opened last year in Great Barrington and reopened this summer in Hillsdale, NY. With a focus on collaboration, the show was open to any three-person artist team, each of which was presented with a sheet of watercolor paper and allowed to establish their own set of "rules." I was lucky to collaborate with Dee Shapiro (previous Knox community show participant and guest curator of *Tailored*) and Sue Muskat Knoll. LABspace is open Thursday and Friday, 1 to 6 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and by appointment. LABspace is at 2642 NY Route 23 (just west of NY Route 22), Hillsdale, NY. 646-567-9681. Go to labspaceart.blogspot.com.

Front to Back*, by Julie Shapiro*

Panorama opened on August 22 at No. Six Depot's gallery in West Stockbridge. Curated by Monterey residents and artist/curators Sue and Phil Knoll (each of whom was represented in the Knox gallery several years ago in the four-person exhibition *SoBe Art Club*), this exhibition of small works features the work of twenty artists. Many of the artists included in the exhibition live in the Berkshires and surrounding areas. Several of these artists also have ties to the Knox Gallery including Sheffield resident Brece Honeycutt, whose exhibition *underfoot* was at the Knox Gallery last year. *Panorama* is up through October 1, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesdays, at 6 Depot Street, West Stockbridge. 232-0205. Go to sixdepot.com.

Six of my prints are included in the exhibition *A Survey: Contemporary Printmaking and Book Art*. Fahimeh Vahdat, in curating this exhibition, chose artists to represent a printmaking process with which they were especially involved. I was asked to represent carborundum aquatint, a process I find particularly conducive to working with color, which is a primary concern in my prints as well as in my paintings and work on paper. This exhibition, which opened August 20 and runs through September 20, is located at the Rouse Gallery at Howard Community College, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Sunday. Rouse Gallery is at 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD. Go to howardcc.edu/discover/arts-culture/horowitz-center/art-galleries/

—Julie Shapiro

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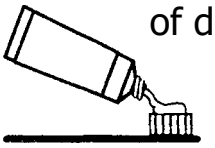

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Come Join the Fun!

Adam Brown and Will Conklin of the Easy Ridin' Papas

Meetinghouse Fundraiser Concert

Saturday, September 5, at 7 p.m.

The concert will feature performances by Joe Baker (guitar) and Bonner McAllester (hammered dulcimer) of the band Mountain Laurel, as well as The Easy Ridin' Papas (Depression-era country blues/jazz/western swing/gospel). Special guest Eric Martin (viola, fiddle) will join both groups for some songs and will emcee the event. All proceeds will go to the Monterey Meetinghouse capital campaign. Suggested donation—$20 for adults, kids get in free.

Joe Baker and Bonner McAllester of Mountain Laurel

Special guest Eric Martin

It will be a great concert, and a great help for the Meetinghouse.

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MEREDITH OISLANDER OWNER

Wired West Update

$55 Million in Funding

Over the last several months, twenty-three Wired West communities have passed bond authorizations totaling $36 million for their towns' portion of costs to build a fiber-optic network. The votes have been characterized by record attendance and passage by overwhelming margins, including three unanimous town votes. Given the towns' bond authorizations passed so far, Wired West has qualified for $19 million of additional state funds, for a total funding thus far of $55 million.

On July 13, the Town of Tolland became the twenty-third town to authorize funding. Several more towns are planning to conduct meetings in the fall.

Residents and businesses are also indicating strong appetites for the services Wired West is planning to bring to their communities. So far over 7,000 deposits for service, representing more than a third of potential subscribers, and fifteen towns, including Monterey, have more than 40% of premises subscribed. Higher rates of subscriptions may factor into which towns are built out first.

You and your neighbors can sign up by going to WiredWest.net, and following directions to register by mail or online.

—Wired West

Steve Graves

The annual Monterey summer softball season, with weekly games at Greene Park on Sunday mornings at 10:30, has had its usual excellent participation and players from as far as California. Additionally, Monterey split two Saturday games with a Copake, NY, team with a home game on August 15 and an away game in Copake on August 22. The season continues through October with informal adult games for players of all levels.

Eion Higgins

Lobsterfest watermelon

Steve Graves

Monterey Boys of Summer (plus Hailey) youth baseball attracted all-star players ages 7 to 12 to Monterey's Greene Park for informal games Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.. The fourteen-game season featured players vacationing in Monterey and full-season players from surrounding communities. Monterey youth baseball continues with free, informal fall ball on Saturdays at 10:30 in September.

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Berkshire Pottery Tour
September 27 and 28

The second annual Berkshire Pottery Tour will be held on the weekend of September 26 and 27, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy the beginning of the beautiful fall foliage season with a self-guided tour of seven local potters' studios. This tour takes you through the back roads of the southern Berkshires, from Richmond to New Marlborough. There will be a variety of demonstrations at each studio, from wheel throwing to decorating techniques.

From September 2 to September 27, there will be a group show of pottery at Lauren Clark Fine Art on Railroad Street in Great Barrington. The opening is Saturday, September 5, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. This is a good opportunity to view the work of all the artists in one place. Maps of the tour will also be available at the gallery.

Please visit berkshirepotterytour.com to see photos of each potter's work, a map of the tour, and a schedule of demonstrations at the various studios. Admission to all events is free and families are welcome. Look for the distinctive orange and white "Pottery Tour" road signs at key turns on the weekend of the event. More information and a map of the tour route are also available from Ellen Grenadier at Grenadier Pottery, on Tyringham Road in Monterey, or call her at 528-9973.

Pottery Tour Artists

Linda Skipper of New Marlborough, new to the tour, was invited after impressing the group with her incised geometric designs on thrown pots. For twenty years she balanced her work as head scenic artist on "Law & Order" with her weekend passion for making pottery in the Berkshires. Now, finally, a full-time life as a potter has won out.

Paula Shalan hand polishes her coil, slab, and pinched vessels before smoke firing. She exhibits nationally at galleries and retail shows including Craft Boston and the Philadelphia Museum show. A longtime faculty member at IS183 Art School, Shalan has been awarded a number of artist residencies over the past three years most recently at the historic gardens at Naumkeag in Stockbridge. She teaches smoke fire workshops regionally.

Lorimer Burns came to ceramics from the world of downtown dance (BFA, NYU). She took her first wheel class at IS183 Art School in Stockbridge and has since studied with several pottery masters, as well as many other inspired artists. She is a faculty artist at IS183 and Community Access to the Arts. She maintains Borealis Studio/Lorimer Burns Ceramics in Housatonic, MA.

Ben Evans grew up in the Hudson Valley region of New York, received his BFA in ceramics from the State University of New York at New Paltz in 2007, and now teaches and manages the ceramic studio at IS183 Art School in Stockbridge. Ben's recent work focuses on geometry and structure in architectural themes reduced to a handheld scale. Ben formulates his glazes to highlight the clean lines of his porcelain work, focusing on the comfort and functionality of each piece.

Ben Krupka is a studio artist and an associate professor of ceramics and design at Bard College at Simon's Rock College in Great Barrington. Krupka received his MFA from Utah State University in 2002, and was a resident artist at the Archie Bray Foundation from 2003 to 2005, doing wood-fired functional pottery. Since that time, Krupka has taught nationally and internationally. His work has been shown in over 150 exhibitions, with pieces in public and private collections, and has been published in multiple magazines and books.

Daniel Bellow won the art prize in high school for his ceramic work and then was studio apprentice to his teacher, Tom White, in Northfield, MA, before he opted for a career in journalism. Some twelve years ago, he decided to teach himself to throw pots, and he has learned from generous friends. He sells his wheel-thrown and altered work in fine stores and galleries nationwide and teaches at the Great Barrington Waldorf High School.

Ellen Grenadier has been making tableware, custom tiles, and murals for over thirty years. Her tableware and wall art incorporates impressions of the natural world in elegant bowls, platters, dinnerware, tea and coffee service, vases, and more. All work is made in stoneware and glazed with natural cobalt blues, copper greens and ambers made from iron—all food safe and meant to be used.

—Ellen Grenadier, for the Pottery Tour

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Bidwell House Museum
September Outdoor Events

Housatonic Heritage Walk: Champion Oak Trees

Saturday, September 19, 10 a.m. to noon. Join us for a free guided walk on Bidwell lands exploring the flora and fauna of a Berkshire upland forest. Led by Dr. Richard Greene.

Please dress for the weather and wear hiking boots or sturdy footwear. Bring water to drink. The walk is two miles and should take about two hours. Meet at the Bidwell House Museum. Please note—the walk does not include a tour of the house interior. Presented in cooperation with Housatonic Heritage.

Families in the Wild

Saturday, September 26, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Bidwell House.

Bring the whole family to an outdoor adventure day led by Flying Deer Nature Center staff on the beautiful grounds of the Bidwell House Museum in Monterey. Enjoy the wonders of nature, foraging for wild edibles, games, and creating fire together with ancient tools. $30 for a parent and child, $10 for an additional child. For parents and their children ages five to twelve.

Advance reservations necessary for Families in the Wild; call 528-6888 or email bidwellhouse@gmail.com.

For updates and details, please check bidwellhousemuseum.org. Bidwell House Museum, 100 Art School Road, Monterey, MA.

Housatonic Heritage Walks
September and October Events

The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area has expanded its fourteenth annual "Heritage Walks Weekends" to three consecutive weekends—on Saturday and Sunday, September 19 and 20, September 26 and 27, and October 3 and 4. Enjoy sixty-three free, guided interpretive walking tours at historic, cultural, and natural resource sites throughout the Housatonic Heritage Area in Berkshire and Litchfield Counties.

The goal of the interpretive walks is to connect residents and visitors with the resources and organizations in the Upper Housatonic River valley area, so that they may become involved stewards of their surroundings.We're trying to connect people to the history of the land, hoping that when people personally experience and appreciate these rich sites, they'll become advocates for them. An added bonus to touring sites during the Heritage Walks event is that the tours are led by experienced guides who can orient you to the history of the landscape, which enhances the overall experience—so you can walk away from an active and pleasant day knowing a lot more about the scenery than someone who goes it alone.

The Heritage Walks feature short walks and longer trail hikes to scenic ridges; biking tours; nature and birding walks; tours of towns, historical buildings, and industrial site ruins; a canoe trip on the river; and a Native American walk. Expert historians, naturalists, and environmentalists will help participants explore the region's rich historical, cultural, industrial, and environmental history.

Heritage Walks brochures can be found at libraries, post offices, and many stores. To view the entire schedule of tours, visit our website heritage-hikes.org, or email programs@HousatonicHeritage.org to request an event brochure be mailed to you.

Appalachian Trail Hike
Sunday, September 27

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) and Tracy Remelius Yoga are partnering to host a four-mile hike on the Appalachian Trail to the Jug End with views north to Mt. Greylock, and of the Berkshires and Litchfield Hills.

The hike will be from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. from the ATC's Kellogg Conservation Center, 62 Undermountain Road, Route 41 in South Egremont. Then after the hike relax with a gentle restorative flow yoga class led by Tracy Remelius outside at the Kellogg Center.

Please bring a yoga mat, two liters of water, snacks, an extra layer, and appropriate footwear. Trekking poles recommended for the downhill.

Registration is required at scassano@appalachiantrail.org or call 528-8002.

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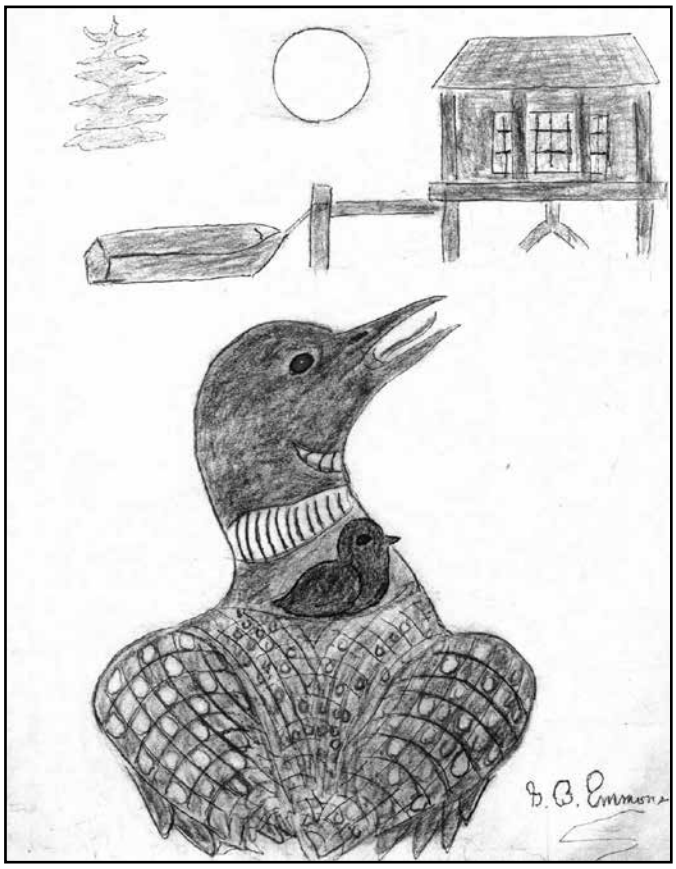


Native Americans believe that every living thing on Earth, even the smallest blade of grass, is sacred, and they showed respect for animals and other creatures. Today, in modern times, a new cosmology theory says that every aspect of nature is in communication with its environment. Most of us today are aware of a daily communication with our environment and have meaningful conversations with our household pets, just as farmers have used verbal language and nonverbal body language to achieve productive, conditioned responses in behavior with their stock.

One of the most remarkable examples of animal communication is documented in the Monterey library book *The Man Who Listens To Horses*, by Monty Roberts, whose gentle training methods were eventually made into a movie, *The Horse Whisperer.* Roberts revealed the depth of relationship possible between man and beast through kind words and good vibrations. He was able to take a wild, high-strung mustang never before handled and persuade it to accept a bridle, saddle, and rider in about thirty minutes. His handling was so remarkable that he was recognized by the Queen of England and invited to demonstrate his accomplishments to the royal horse world around Windsor Castle.

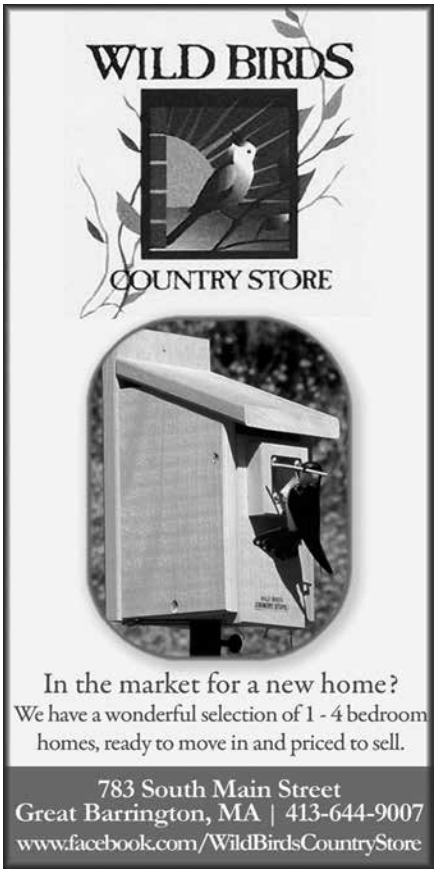
Another library book on this subject is *Learning their Language*, by Marta Williams. She explores a similar phenomenon of "intuitive communication," a less tangible, non-verbal form of communication with the natural world. She shows how intuition can transcend our own five senses, somewhat similar to extra-sensory perception. Her most remarkable source is a publication by George Washington Carver, *The Secret Life of Plants*. As agricultural director of Tuskegee University in Alabama at the turn of the twentieth century, Carver pioneered developing alternative uses for peanuts, advocated growing sweet potatoes for better human nutrition, as well as discovered dyes for industrial use. He said he gleaned his creative insights when walking in the woods, as he received inspiration from plants on methods for extracting their healing herbs for human ailments.

Another phenomenon of human connection, *anthropomorphism,* is the assigning of human habits and qualities to mammals, birds, and fish. Walt Disney cartoons and Felix Salten's "Bambi" were most notable for entertaining young people. For adults, the poem "The Raven," by Edgar Allen Poe, reinforced a human observation of a raven's ability to use tools and talk, repeating the word *nevermore* in the poem. Today our children learn about nature through reading, television, and other electronics. However, their senses are filled by the constant flicker of screens, the tang of exhaust, their eyes and ears clogged, causing collective deafness to the natural world's mosaic of visual and oral communication.

The idea of "going wild" to re-find our senses and seek solitude, is best exemplified in Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*, his adventure on a soul-searching mission into seclusion which gave birth to a wave of theological thinking and a spiritual watershed called *transcendentalism*. In a similar ritual, each year my family retreats to an island on Lake Winnipesaukee. While there, in the solitude of an evening, like Poe hearing a knocking on the door by the raven, we hear the haunting call of loons, one of the oldest creatures on this planet, Thoreau called it the most "unearthly laughter" he had ever heard.

A loon's melodious yodel, called a "tremulo," is a territorial warning against invasion of their aquatic realm. Their other call, the "wail," was said by Native Americans to forecast rain. But the depth of tone seems to mourn the passage of time, and the consequences of not talking and not listening to animals, or to the foreboding messages from the environment.

—George B. Emmons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Searsville Gossip

Jim and John and Silas
Met one autumn day,
Down by the old milk station
On Goshen state highway.
John pushed an old wheelbarrow,
Jim drove a jogging bay,
But Silas' milk looked fine as silk
In a brand new Chevrolet.
John asked, "How's business?"
Though he had none of his own,
For money had slipped from his fingers
Like cooked meat from a bone.
Jim said, "Gosh, if it wasn't for taxes
A-bein' so all-fired high,
With the money from wood and apples
I might be gettin' by."

Then Silas set down a can of milk
To slowly scratch his head;
"It's not the taxes that count so much
As the price of gas," he said.
"It's the cost of tires and insurance,
The oil and the license fee,
And the depreciation on the car,
Is what's a-botherin'me."
"M-yes," says Jim, "I always s'posed
When a man could own a car,
All his worries 'ud vanish
And his happiness be at par."

Then along came the truck
That gathers the milk,
The farmers had brought by the can,
To take it down to the distant town
As a gift to the middleman.
And John with his old wheelbarrow
And Jim with his jogging bay
And Silas in his brand new car
Each went a separate way;
And each in a different manner
According to God's own plan
Had mixed his portion of worry
With the milk he put in the can.

— Grandpa Black

Grandpa Black was Sally Pullen's grandfather. Grandpa Black was a subsistence farmer who milked a few cows and grew apples to sell for cash, and grew most everything else they ate. He wrote poems, which Sally's cousin published. The farm was in Searsville, a hamlet of Northampton, MA.

He would sometimes write poems onto the whitewashed walls of the milking parlor as he was hand-milking his cows. He'd write the poems. Grandmother would find time to write them down before they got lost to the grime or a new coat of whitewash.

He also wrote a few about Memorial Day parades, watching the last Civil War veterans. I guess this was written in the 1920s.

— Steve Pullen

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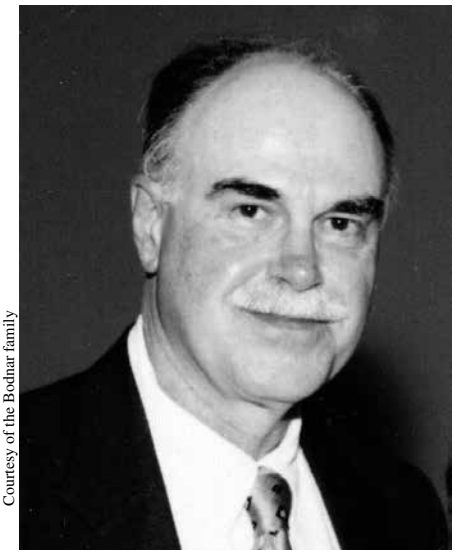
In Remembrance
John Holmes Bodnar


Courtesy of the Bodnar family

John passed away Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at the age of seventy-two, at his home here in Monterey after a brief illness, surrounded by his loving family. His family is grateful for the help they received in getting him home from Pittsfield through the Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance and the Monterey Fire Department, and they would also like to express their gratitude for all the prayers, masses, and expressions of sympathy. John's hospitalization was his first since his birth in 1943 and the care he received at Fairview Emergency and at Berkshire Medical Center from the doctors, nurses, and staff was superlative.

Monterey was an inevitable part of John's adult life. John was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, the son of Dr. Albert Edward and Helen (Moorey) Bodnar. John's mother had worked for three summers here as a camp counselor at Camp Fernway on Lake Garfield in the early 1930s, prior to her marriage to John's father.

John became a social worker for the State of Connecticut Department of Children and Youth Services after he received his bachelor's degree from Central Connecticut State University and a master's degree in social work from the University of Connecticut School of Social Work. There was no question that sooner or later John would meet Estella (Stella) Ortiz Bodnar, for they both worked in the same State of Connecticut social services building. Stella was a translator and John a social worker often in the field. One day John's work required a translator to assist with a field assignment. Stella was the only state translator available that day. Both quickly knew they were meant to be together and married a year later in 1976.

It was John's mother who introduced John to Monterey and suggested he and his young wife, Estella, make their home here, on the peaceful southern shore of Lake Garfield. Stella and John moved to Monterey in 1979. Soon they were enveloped in the camaraderie of "Monterey Lights the Way" and made lifelong friends among those who worked so hard to study and engage in energy conservation here. They met in the church basement for the better part of a year along with other Montereyans eager to prove they could save more energy than other towns in New England and several provinces of Canada, and, as each meeting of the group ended, they moved across the street to the general store for snacks and conversation. John and Stella pursued the quest of energy conservation from that time, being among the first of that set to install solar hot water, using federal energy credits, in 1980. The culmination of that quest came in 2009 when photovoltaic panels were installed to boost their energy production. John gleefully reported the truly small electric bills he and Stella received after that installation.

Having grown up sailing in southern Connecticut, John also loved to be out on the water and took great delight in sailing from his own mooring. In addition, trap shooting as a league member of the Lee Sportsman's Association and skiing at Butternut with Stella were fulfilling joys.

John and Stella were additionally involved in election work for Monterey for many years. John first worked alongside Stella, as he and she kept the record of the second election table for those who received a ballot, just before it was cast. His final position was as the election warden for the town of Monterey. His expertise and care in elections will be sorely missed. John continued to work for the State of Connecticut Department of Children and Youth Services for thirty-four years, much of the time commuting daily from Monterey to Torrington.

Many Montereyans will recall seeing John and Stella walking miles along Monterey roads each day. It was their rule to walk three to four miles each day unless the temperature was less than ten degrees. That was a feat indeed, regardless of the weather. Strong and quiet with a twinkle in his eye, John regaled us with wonderful stories and enjoyed a good laugh. We will miss him.

John is survived by his wife, Estella Ortiz Bodnar of Monterey, and his sister, Susan Bodnar Vandenberg and her husband, Roger, children Laurie (Frank) Glavin and Douglas (Nicole) Vandenberg, and grandchildren Hannah and Lilly Glavin, and Vincent and Eve Vandenberg. Funeral services for John Bodnar were held on Saturday, August 8, 2015, with the Reverend Liz Goodman of the Monterey United Church of Christ and Father Murphy of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church in Great Barrington officiating. Burial followed in Corashire Cemetery in Monterey.

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In Rememberance

Kent Smith, Gould Farm Director

The Rev. Kent D. Smith, of East Randolph, Vermont, former executive director of Gould Farm, died at his home on July 28, 2015. He was eighty. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Smith, sons David Markwood and Steven Smith, and six grandchildren.

An ordained Presbyterian minister, Smith served as Gould Farm's executive director from 1972 to1990. Nancy Smith was the farm's psychiatric nurse. During the Smiths' tenure, the farm acquired the Roadside Store in 1976 and, in 1977, with former Gould Farm staff, Virgil Stucker and Brian Snyder, they developed transitional living programs in Lincoln and then later in Waltham and Newton—today the farm's Non-Residential Support Services. Smith's book, *Faith: Reflections on Experience, Theology, and Fiction* (1983), drawing upon the literature of John Updike and theology of Paul Tillich, explored the intersections of literature, theology, and mental illness.

In 1991, Smith became the founding executive director of the Planned Lifetime Assistance Network of New York. After the Smiths moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, he and Nancy taught at the Presbyterian-affiliated Menaul School while volunteering at the Center for Action and Contemplation, a Catholic retreat and resource center. In the late 1990s the Smiths moved to Harrisonburg, in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, where Nancy served on the board of the former Crossing Creeks, Inc., a program based on Gould Farm. During this time, Kent Smith helped found, with area ministers and laypersons, an emergency winter shelter for the area's chronically homeless, becoming a model of such sheltering throughout the Shenandoah Valley. They retired to Vermont in 2014.

Born near Xenia, Ohio, in 1935, Smith received a Master of Divinity from the University of Chicago, then entered its doctoral program in Religion and Personality. He trained in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, DC, later becoming Supervisor of CPE at Lancaster (Pennsylvania) General Hospital. Smith taught at Crozer Theological Seminary and then served as Supervisor of CPE for the Delaware Department of Mental Health. During this time, from 1969 through 1971, the Smiths and two other families lived communally in a large farm house near Lancaster. This communal experiment, which in part served as a "drop-in" center for Vietnam War-resisters, also published on its dining room table the anti-war, anti-establishment *Lancaster Independent Press*. This community drew others who were interested in both communal living and serving the disadvantaged.

Smith required there be no formal memorial service. A small gathering of family and friends will meet to celebrate his life in central Pennsylvania this October.

News of the passing of Christine Fliesler was received. She died peacefully. A rememberance will be in the October issue.

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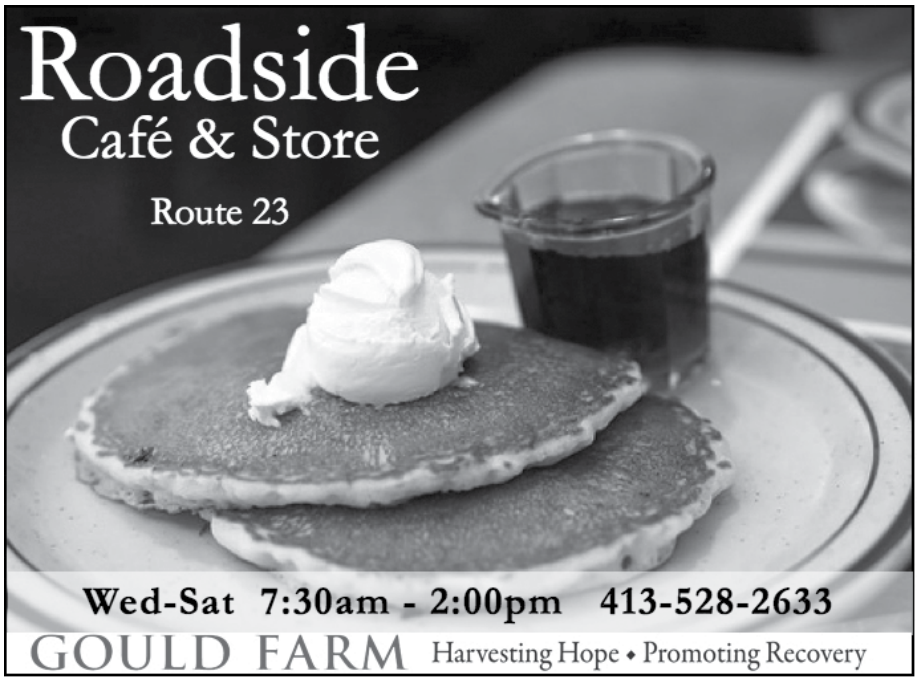

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Hats Off to the Monterey Community

Adonijah, Theodosia, Jemimah, Ruth—the Reverend Bidwell and his wives took care of this community in its earliest days, baptizing, marrying, and burying our forebears, and praying for divine intervention on their behalf. The Bidwell House Museum is surviving and thriving today in your midst because you, the community, are taking care of the Reverend's home. You support the museum so it is there to tell the story of this community to your children and grandchildren in years to come.

A huge thank you to all of you who supported the Bidwell House Museum by helping with and attending the twenty-fifth anniversary fundraising party and making it so much fun. The party was a great success, raising funds to operate the museum and its programs.

Malinka Jackson

The party honored the legacy of Joyce Scheffey *(above)* and the late Lew Scheffey, founding members and great supporters of the museum and so much of this community. We also celebrated and remembered Nancy Dinan, longtime board member of the museum.

A special thank you to the town committees that made the party possible: the Cemetery Commission, the Building Inspector, Board of Health, Police Department, and Select Board. Your support is key.

Special sponsors of the party were *Berkshire Magazine*, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Salisbury Bank, and Synergistic Designs, LLC. Thank you.

Malinka Jackson

Hosting the party at their beautiful property were Linda Saul-Sena and Mark Sena and their daughters Aliza and Gabrielle *(above)*.

Thank you to Karen Shreefter and Christopher Blair for site access and electricity, Ward's of Great Barrington for the spectacular plants, Michele Miller and Bola Granola for the Bola Bars, Wendy Germain and CTSB for recording and editing the interview with Joyce Scheffey, and Scott Cole and the Monterey General Store for your support. Marshall Messer was a really great auctioneer.

Kathryn Roberts chaired the committee, ably assisted by Lynda Mulvey and a fantastic volunteer committee: Karen Anderson & Cliff Weiss, Michael & Maureen Banner, Maggie Barkin, JoAnn Bell & Doug McTavish, Christopher Blair & Karen Shreefter, Beth Bogart, Sydney & Charles Brandwein, Scott Cole, Delight Dodyk, Walter & Mary Jo Engels, Charlie Flint, Jean Germain, Wendy Germain, Christine Goldfinger, Rocky Greenberg & Susan Popper, Esther Heffernan, Cindy & Rob Hoogs, Malinka Jackson, Nancy Jones, Michael Keith & Ronald Skrepich, Mary Makuc, Marsha Norman, Marc Roberts, Pat Salomon, Linda Saul-Sena & Mark Sena, Jane & Martin Schwartz, Barbara Tryon, Steven Weisz, Elizabeth Wolf, MaryPaul Yates, and Pat Yearwood. The party could not have happened without you. Thank you, thank you.

Much gratitude goes to the donors of auction items: Maureen & Michael Banner, JoAnn Bell and Doug McTavish, Sydney and Charles Brandwein, Café Adam, Castle Street Café, Virginia Demos, John Dinan Sr. and Rick and Debra Mielke, Delight Dodyk, Beth Feeman, Charlie and Joy Flint, Jean Germain, Mark Germain, Esther Heffernan, Rob Hoogs, Gordon & Carole Hyatt, Iredale Mineral Cosmetics, Nancy Jones, Michael Keith, Mark Mendel of Monterey Masonry, The Mount, Kathryn and Marc Roberts, The Old Inn on the Green, Paperdilly, Inc., Pearl's Fitness 24, The Red Lion Inn, Hy Rosen, Linda Saul-Sena & Mark Sena, Joyce Scheffey, Jane & Martin Schwartz, Ski Butternut, SoCo Creamery, Roger Tryon, Michael Wainwright, Steven Weisz, Rick Wilcox. Your contributions allow the museum to raise much needed funds.

A "Hats Off" salute to all of you from the Bidwell House Museum!

—Barbara Palmer
Executive Director

❊

Dennis J. Downing
Attorney at Law

❊

17 Mahaiwe Street
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Aftermath
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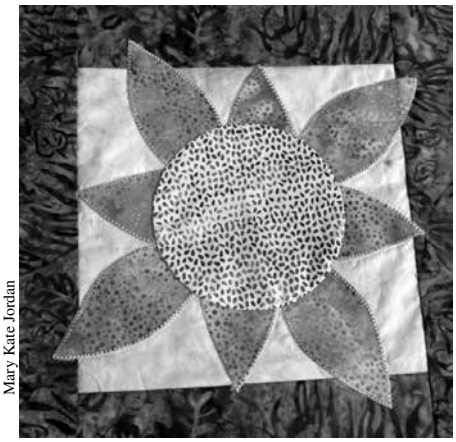
Sunflowers for September

Sunflowers' saffron petals are reminders of last month's solar heat. Flower heads abundant with seeds turn our hearts and minds toward harvest, too, so sunflowers are a perfect image for the month of the Autumnal Equinox.

Here in New England, as we all know, seasonal change is a force to be reckoned with. I've had seasonal changes of my own regarding the colder, darker months. I was one of those kids who, when the snow was deep, only came reluctantly indoors when it was actually dark. My first change-of-stripes about cold weather developed when I was a relatively fashion-conscious, city-dwelling young adult who spent winters going to and fro in short dresses, short coats, high-heeled boots, thin leather gloves, with just a nod to wool scarf and hat. What shifted my perspective again was the passion I developed for cross-country skiing.

One Friday afternoon three friends and I rented X-C skis, left the city and aimed toward Vermont. That first weekend my legs ached so much I cried driving my standard-shift car back home, but I was hooked. We all were. We'd drive north on Friday, ski until dark on Sunday and drive home to radiate joy through Tuesday. Then we'd ride the wave of anticipation that rose like a tide every Wednesday: back to Vermont day after tomorrow! It was a great winter doldrums prescription. By spring break that year, the only ski-able snow in North America was confined to either Aspen,



Mary Kate Jordan

This quilt block pattern is traditionally called "Sunflower."

Colorado, or Park City, Utah. So we flew to Park City.

Even my first home-base in Berkshire County was a place in New Marlborough, which, for a few years, boasted X-C ski trails. A few winters later, I trekked my luggage through waist-high February drifts and flew south to visit friends in Chile where the weather was like our July. Other than that, I remained faithful to my X-C skis until the late 1980s. Now I snowshoe instead, but getting outdoors into whatever sunshine is available is still the best folk remedy I know for getting from November to April.

Why mention this now, in September? The days are already growing visibly shorter. It's already time to tap the wisdom of the sunflowers, both in the world we share with them, and in our interior worlds. It's already time to turn toward the greatest source of light and warmth we find—to do, with an act of will, what sunflowers do with no need to debate or decide. After all, even before the turn of the calendar year, this hemisphere will have turned toward the sun again as well.

Some call that attitude hope. Others shrug it off. But you—as we move toward the equinox and then toward the Winter Solstice, won't you consider the wisdom of the sunflowers?

—Mary Kate Jordan

photo doctored by Paul Lang.

Lake Garfield Whopper!
Dr. Laurence Roth of Great Barrington, invited to go fishing by Jane and Paul Lang, is pictured with his catch of a large large-mouth bass.

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Give Right Away

When I was eight and nine we lived on a sheep ranch in Arizona, best year of my life, I often say. I was a cowboy then. We leased a quarter horse mare from the rancher and she was "mine." I had the hat and boots and I rode Nanook all over the red rock country, bareback. Once in a while I fell off and had to walk some to find a rock that made me tall enough to jump up onto her back again and go carousing across the landscape again. If my parents worried about me, I never knew.

Up the creek from us there was a woman neighbor, some distance. Our landlord the sheep rancher was a kind and fair man, but even he chuckled when talking about the woman neighbor, Helen. She was eccentric, which when you are eight years old translates to "oddball." We often went down to her swimming hole, me on Nanook and the rest of the family in our VW bus. When you got onto Helen's land you could tell because there were little signs on the trees here and there, and they made the folks chuckle. They told everyone to be gentle and careful about animals, to brush away a mosquito rather than nailing it, and to have the "decency of a small cat," as Helen put it, and dig a little hole if you needed to go to the bathroom. We always packed a narrow shovel in our car for this, but maybe some people needed to see the signs to think of it.

At the top of these homemade signs, in bigger letters, was the admonition: "Give Right Away to Animals." I am sorry to say that we all laughed. Worse, we made fun of Helen. We shook our heads in our superiority, figuring she didn't even know how to write her own words.

Over the years, back home in New England, we told stories of life in the West, including the sheep ranch, my cowboy adventures, and that oddball neighbor down the creek. She once loaned us a special book, she said, for my parents to read to us kids. I recall it was All Dogs Go to Heaven, and it was clear to me that it was too sentimental and sappy for the likes of us. We kept it a couple of weeks ,and I was dispatched to return it. I cantered off along the creek and then up her long driveway to a McMansion with an amazing view. She lived alone, but there were tales of her many marriages, one of which included Cornelius Vanderbilt, and that is all I really have ever known about him, except you can tell by the name there was money.

I got up to Helen's stronghold and she invited me in. She lounged in exotic fabrics plus a buffalo robe on a bed with curving windows around it. She looked like she was in a movie. I had the feeling her health was not good, otherwise why be in bed in the middle of the day? I lied and was polite about the book, and soon I was jogging home again. Did I swat mosquitoes while I was still on Helen's place? I bet I didn't. After all, she could be the boss of her place. But I was still the tough hombre who could thread a worm on a hook no problem, catch a catfish in the creek and kill it with my pocketknife. Later in life I could pith a frog in biology class, though there were some who were too squeamish for that and our teacher let them off. They were girls, of course. In our class the message was that this was the working sexist excuse for being softies or weaklings of some kind. Some of us, though girls, were tough and could put a dissecting needle into the head of a live frog. I can't even write about it now, but back then, I was still some kind of cowboy.

Years go by and here I come with eight-year-olds of my own. We go up in the garden and they are helping pull weeds and such. When it comes to potato bugs, I am the tough one, squashing them right where they stand, but the kids won't go there. They are good spotters and will locate the potato bug, but then they call me to do the dirty work. Maybe it was just too gross and messy for them, but really, I can't recall either of the kids smashing

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bugs, even the less juicy ones. Not even the clusters of orange potato bug eggs would they mash. Nowadays I am on my own with the potato bugs and slugs and such, no young helpers any more. I think of our old neighbor Helen as I gently gather up the slug and send it airborne over into the orchard, to land in the grass and maybe find a drop apple or at least something green to eat that is not our broccoli. The potato bugs I send sailing also, though I doubt they can live on anything but potatoes, being introduced non-natives, and specialists. So I send them to death by starvation, tossing them too far to crawl back on their tiny legs. When I do, I think of Helen. Would she just let them nibble down the potato plants to sticks, like they do? Or maybe designate part of the patch as bug-friendly? Where did she get her potatoes, anyhow? I bet she didn't have to think about bug well-being as she filled her shopping cart in town.

We can't, any of us, get it all right all of the time. What she did, Helen Vanderbilt Varner Frye, is she did her best and she wrote those little signs. Maybe I laughed at her when I was eight, but not any more. I was copying the adult folks around me back then, but when I had my own eight-year olds, they at least were making their own choices. Now, I sit at the top of the garden looking out over the potato plants. When mosquitoes come around, I growl at them in their own language, gesticulate a little and sometimes blow a gust of wind to send them swirling off. Times I actually connect with one and see its suddenly still body like a tiny weightless bundle of twigs, I think: Wait a minute! Just a second ago this thing was flying all over, making sounds, responding and reacting. Now look, it's done for. Now it is too late. I could have gently brushed it off.

In the house we have a lot of long-bodied cellar spiders. That is a particular species of spider and they live along the ceiling and all around the insides of the windows. In this house we do not vacuum up or smash spiders, ever. Nor ants, nor wasps, mice, house pets, visitors, or any other animals. We haven't posted any of those oddball signs yet, but we are pleased to give right away, to animals.

—Bonner McAllester

Monterey Community Center News

Oktoberfest is coming up fast, so please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 10, from noon to 4 p.m. There will be food (brats, beer, hot dogs, desserts), music (live acoustic music from your local favorites), house tours (see how close we are to completing the center), activities (pumpkin roll, pony rides, craft table, photo booth, and more) and vendors (local craftspeople and artisans).

Our final outdoor yoga session will be held on Saturday, September 19, from 11 a.m. to noon, with instruction by Kathleen Kraft. Please come and partake of this opportunity—the cost is only $10 to support the community center improvements.

We have been able to make great progress this summer on the renovation of the Wilson McLaughlin House. Please stop in and take a look—the center is at 468 Main Road, on the corner with New Marlboro Road, just up the hill from the store and post office. See the map on our website if you are in doubt, check it out at ccmonterey.org.

—Friends of Wilson McLaughlin House

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all are welcome . free admission . rain or shine - we have tents

What's in a Name?

Europeans came to North America (at the outset, primarily from western Europe) either because their living conditions had deteriorated, onerous laws had been imposed, or religious persecution had intensified. They wished to escape the old world and begin anew in America. They sought and found a new identity, and the longer they remained here the more distant the memories of the lands they had left became. On the other hand, the new territory was in many ways wild, alien, and unpredictable, and so they often grew nostalgic, found comfort in recalling the places they had left. Furthermore, the settlements they established were, for the most part, modest in size and population. They needed somehow to convince themselves that permanent and impressive towns and cities would ultimately arise there, that these population clusters would develop into sizable centers of activity.

The consequence of all this was that they chose repeatedly to assign names from their old world to places where they congregated. Predictably, because a majority of the early settlers arrived from the British Isles, many of the place names, especially in the Northeast, derived from English counterparts. So, in Massachusetts, small communities chose names such as Winchester, Yarmouth, Plymouth, Northampton, Ipswich, Bristol, Cambridge, and naturally Oxford as well. In Connecticut such well-known English towns as Avon, Cheshire, Danbury, Essex, Greenwich, New London, New Britain, Stratford, and Windsor were selected. In Pennsylvania, seventy-three communities traced their names back to England, and in New York the total was sixty-one. Interestingly, because mostly New Englanders drifted west into Ohio, over sixty towns there also adopted English place names, including Liverpool, Dover, Coventry, Bristol, and Brighton. Naturally, as new territories and states opened in the west, English influence declined markedly as seen in the fact that there were but seven English place names in California, three in South Dakota, two in Kentucky, and only one in Iowa.

But that didn't exhaust the possibilities. In time immigrants arrived from areas other than Great Britain and predictably place names came to reflect that fact. Consider, for example, such towns as Dublin, Texas; New Brunswick, New Jersey; Milan, Tennessee; Amsterdam and Copenhagen, New York; Berlin, New Hampshire; Naples, Florida; Moscow, Idaho, and in Minnesota, Oslo, Upsala and Belgrade.

Americans also dreamed big, attempting to recruit potential settlers to a particular location by suggesting that a promising future awaited them there. What might help, they concluded, was to appropriate the names of ancient cities that had once been the envy of their age. And so we have such places as Troy, New York; Corinth and Palmyra, Maine; Toledo, Ohio; Cairo, Illinois; Memphis, Tennessee; Venice and Vienna, Illinois; and Athens, Georgia. How could one doubt the prospects of such places given their distinguished pedigrees?

Everyone who came to our shores in time became loyal Americans, but many still thought it wise, practical, and comforting to link themselves, if only by name, to their places of origin or to cities widely recognized and long celebrated.

—Richard Skolnik

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September 5 The Music & More Benefit Concert: Karen Akers
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September 12 Les Amies
Carol Wincenc, flute; Cynthia Phelps, viola; Nancy Allen, Harp
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September 19 Harold Lewin Memorial Concert: Musicians of Aston Magna
Performing an all-Bach program.

September 26 Lydian Quartet
Daniel Stepner and Judith Eissenberg, violin; Mark Berger, viola; Joshua Gordon, cello
Classical and contemporary quartets of Mendelssohn, Philip Glass, and J. Brahms.

October 3 Award-Winning Authors: Why America? Host Simon Winchester
Madhur Jaffrey, Peter Godwin, Masha Gessen

Receptions with the artists after the performances

For Tickets & Information: www.newmarlborough.org (413) 229-2785

Wildlife Report

Mid-July to Mid-August, Dragons and Lions

At the end of July, Colta Ives sent in a photograph of a big polyphemus moth, with pink tinges. She also reported that "the bats are back in town!"

Colta Ives

photos by Sue Epstein

Going … *going …* *still going …*

In early August, Julie Shapiro, who lives just up the hill from here on the east end of Hupi Road, saw a bear in the yard near the woods, about 8 p.m. It walked out their driveway toward the road, but as far as I know did not come to our house.

Also early in the month, Delight Dodyk wrote of seeing an otter several times off their dock on Lake Garfield. Elizabeth Silk called about mixed flocks of birds enjoying blueberries at her place: robins, goldfinches, and others. Then in mid-August, Ed Salsitz called in excitement over a large flock of thirty or more black dragonflies, darting and swooping all around his place about 5:30 p.m.

Marilyn Lombardo sent a note about two bears where she lives off Mount Hunger Road. The first, on August 6, was large and crossed the driveway. Three days later, "a baby bear ran across the driveway in front of my granddaughter's bicycle."

Sue Epstein saw a big garter snake just swallowing a large frog or toad on Point Road and sent some photographs. She also reports "our resident Hupi porcupine in the middle of the road," was taking its time about moving off into the woods.

In the middle of August, George Emmons was putting up a Lobsterfest sign in front of the church when Maureen Regan rolled up and told him she'd just seen a mountain lion. Later she called me and explained she'd been on her motorcycle on Curtis Road, at a place with woods on both sides. The lion came out onto the road and walked across, so near she could see its shoulder blades moving and the muscles under its close coat. This lion went right across in no hurry and never looked at Maureen on her bike. She says it is a quiet-running model of motorcycle. Maureen had an experience on Hupi Road. earlier in the summer doing some gardening work near Elephant Rock Road. This time she heard a snarl and a big growl and had a gut reaction to throw down her trowel and hightail it out of the vicinity. Later, after seeing the Curtis Road lion, she checked on YouTube for mountain lion sounds and now feels sure that snarling and growling were uttered by a lion.

Thanks, everyone, for your wildlife reports. Keep them coming. There's no creature too small, and of course we all want to hear about big snarling, too. Here on our scarlet runner bean flowers we have hummingbirds feasting, and they are squeaking.

—Bonner McAllester
528-9385 bmca@berkshire.net

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Monterey News
How This "Business" Works

People often ask about the costs to produce the *Monterey News* each month and are surprised to learn that voluntary contributions have for forty-five years carried the paper.

Circulation
Monthly print circulation is about 1,000 copies, plus 120 PDFs emailed.

Costs
- Editorial: editor, town reporter, copy editor, and occasionally commissioned articles—$1,000. Administrative: bookkeeping, managing mailing list, mail service– $260, totaling $1,260 per issue.
- Printing: for a typical 28-page issue– $.60 per copy.
- Mailing: 2nd class mailing (to approximately 550–600 people)—$.40 each.
- Mailed copies cost $27/year. Copies picked up at the store or elsewhere costs $1.85 each, or about $22/year.

Ad Revenue
We have paid and free ads. The paid ads are for businesses with direct connections to Monterey. The free ads are to support events and activities of town municipal or non-profit organizations. These may include events outside of Monterey that involve Monterey residents. The paid advertising is size-based, and the revenue varies but is typically $800-$900 per month. The paid advertising basically covers the expense of the ads portion of the paper.

Contributors
The remarkable part of this story is our voluntary contributors, as we have no paid subscriptions. An analysis done last winter showed that approximately 35% of people who receive mailed copies make contributions. (This was done by matching names, and without consideration to the size of donations.) It appears that of those who pickup copies around town (400+/mo.), the percentage who contribute is only slightly lower at 30%. Please remember that your donations are tax deductible due to our 501(c)(3) status.

Little wonder, then, these contributors are heartily thanked each month, because it is this portion of the readership that keeps this gem of a small town paper going.

Monetary contributions aren't the only thing that keeps this publication alive. The list of folks who write or provide information (articles, poems, drawings, photos, calendar listings) monthly or frequently is currently between forty and fifty people, which swells to hundreds over the years. And there are the dozens of people who have taken roles in guiding the paper as board members or have worked directly on the paper.

So, once again, thank you to everyone who helps support this endeavor, and have for forty-five years now.

—*Monterey News* Board
Liz Goodman, president
Steve Pullen, treasurer
Steve Snyder, clerk
Bonner McAllester & Felix Carroll
Roz Halberstadter & Nathaniel Rundle

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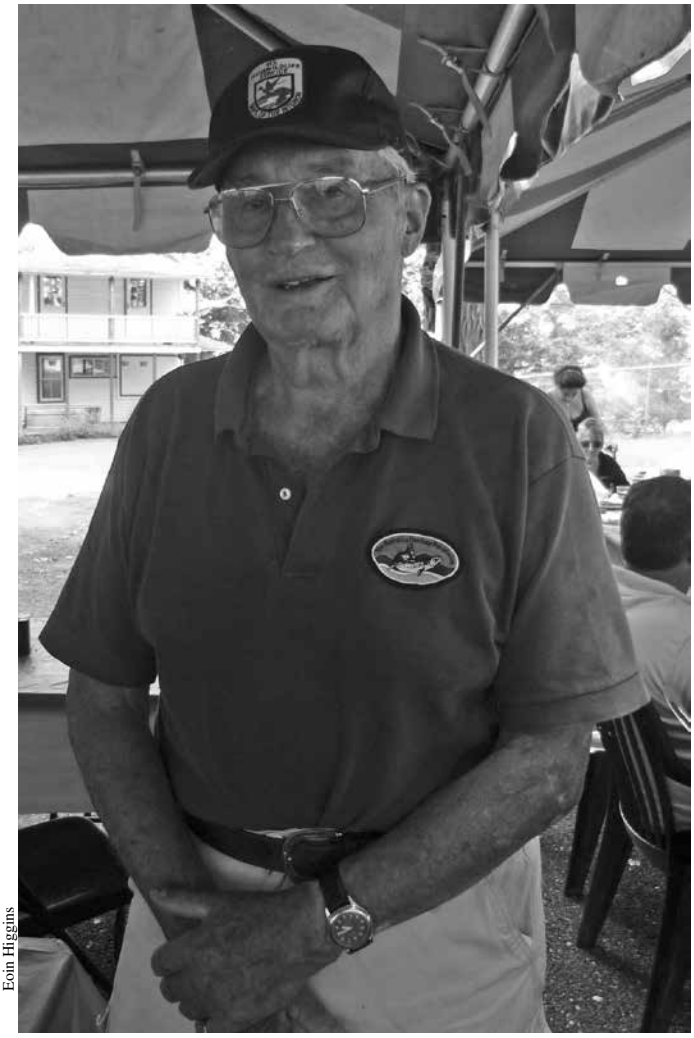
August 2015 Summer Parties–Lobsterfest

The Berkshire National Fish Hatchery's annual Lobsterfest was held on August 23 with beautiful late-summer weather. George Emmons, "Mr. Hatchery," reported having sold upwards of two hundred tickets. Between the ticket sales and the items donated for both the silent and live auction, plus the interest and enthusiasm of the attendees, it was a wonderful and helpful event at the hatchery.

Eoin Higgins

Mr. Hatchery, George Emmons



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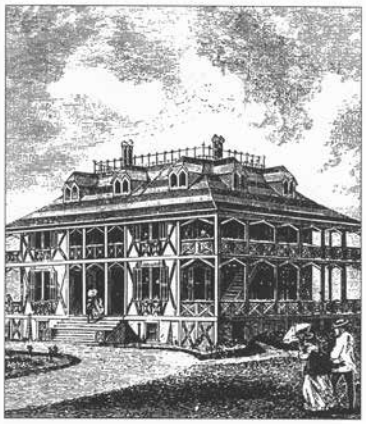

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August 2015 Summer Parties–Bidwell House 25th Anniversary

Clockwise from top left: View from above the Sena's Stone House; inside the light-than-air tent; Delight Dodyk, Maggie Barkin, Christine Goldfinger, with Adam Brown of Easy Ridin' Papas in back; Steve Kass and Mayra Rodriguez; Check-in crew—Marya Makuc, Lexi Shumsky, Aidan Santos; Caterer Kate Baldwin. Center; Kathryn Roberts, Marsha Norman, Linda Saul-Sena, MaryPaul Yates, Mark Sena. Photos by Malinka Jackson.

Judy Greenwald

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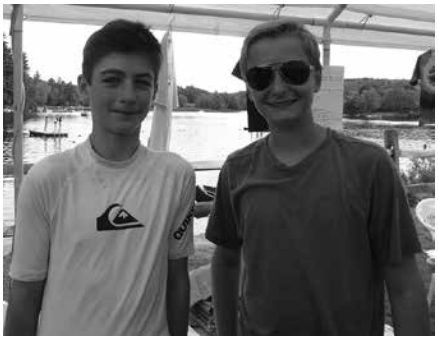
August 2015 Summer Parties–MontereyFest

Liz Oppenheimer

This was a great year for summer parties—beautiful weather, great turn-outs, and obviously a lot of fun for everyone. Photos by Elizabeth Germain.



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Select Board Corner

Welcome to the Select Board Corner. We use this page each month in the Monterey News to keep everyone up to date on important issues, office closings, highway projects, etc. We welcome any comments or suggestions on the articles.

Meetings and Events

Board of Health: Monday, September 21, at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Conservation Commission: Tuesday, September 8, at 6 p.m.

Council on Aging: Wednesdays, September 9 and 23, at 10 a.m.

Free blood pressure clinic: Berkshire VNA on Thursday, September 10, from 2 to 3 p.m.

Foot Nurse: Thursday, September 10, 9 to 11:30 a.m., by appointment. Please call 528-1598. All ages are welcome.

Park Commission: Wednesday, September 2, at 6 p.m.

Planning Board: Thursdays, September 10 and 24, at 7 p.m. Please call Maggie Leonard at 528-9685 to be placed on the agenda.

Select Board: Mondays, September 14, 21, and 28, at 4:15 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda

Office/Town Hall Closings

Town hall will be closed Monday, September 7, for Labor Day.

The administrative assistant's office will close at noon on September 25.

Individual office closings are posted on the town calendar and on the department's voicemail message.

We recommend always calling ahead.

Safety on Our Roads and Waters

Monterey is a small town—however it is important to keep in mind that our roads and lakes are shared by many people and animals. Even the safest person can be injured or killed by others who are speeding, distracted, or careless. Recently, several residents have come to the board complaining of speeding on town roads. The board is aware of the issue and we are working with Police Chief Backhaus to increase radar use throughout the town. We are also looking into increased signage and the purchase of additional speed trailers.

The select board would like to stress that everyone obey the speed limits and be mindful of the fact that most of our roads are "country roads" with poor sight lines, hidden or blind driveways, and an increased presence of walkers, wildlife, cyclists, and children. If you are unsure of what the speed limit is on a particular road, it is always best to err on the side of caution and safety, and travel at a speed of 25 mph. **Please slow down—speeding will not be tolerated in Monterey.**

The board has also noticed an increase in reckless behavior on our lakes. Power boaters must be mindful that our lakes are shared by swimmers and small craft. Several residents have asked for increased enforcement of boating rules and regulations and that an assistant harbormaster be assigned to Lake Garfield. The board is currently researching what this will entail (job responsibilities, transportation, availability, etc.) and hopes to have a permanent solution in place for next year's boating season. If you or someone you know with access to the lake and a boat is interested in this currently volunteer position, please contact Melissa Noe at admin@montereyma.gov.

— Scott Jenssen, Chair
Kenn Basler and Steve Weisz
Monterey Select Board
(scott@montereyma.gov)
(kenn@montereyma.gov)
(steve@montereyma.gov)

For general inquires please click "Contact Us" at www.montereyma.gov

Town Contact Information

Emergency! 911

Administrative Assistant:
528-1443 x111
admin@montereyma.gov
(for town boards and misc. questions)

Assessor: 528-1443 x115
assessors@montereyma.gov

Building Dept.: 528-1443 x118
buildingsafety@montereyma.gov

Fire Department (non-emergency):
528-3136
fire_service@montereyfire.org

Highway Dept.: 528-1734
mhwy@verizon.net

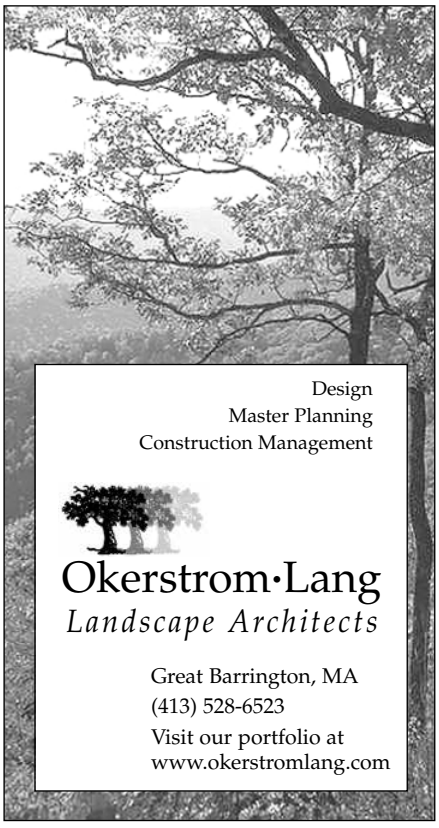
Library: 528-3795
montereylibrary@gmail.com

Police Dept. (non-emergency):
528-1443 x116,
Alternate emergency 528-3211
mpdchief@montereyma.gov

Post Office: 528-4670

Tax Collector: 528-1443 x117
montereytax@yahoo.com
(for questions about your tax bill)

Town Clerk: 528-1443 x113
clerk@montereyma.gov
(for licenses and town records)



Calendar

Every Sunday: Adult softball. Batting practice at 10, games 10:30, Greene Park.

Every Monday except holidays: Select Board meetings, 4:15 p.m.

Every Tuesday: Chair Yoga with Connie Wilson, 9 to 10 a.m., Monterey Town Hall. Free, sponsored by Monterey Parks Commission.

During September:

Knox Gallery. Mariam Stephan's exhibit through October 10. See p. 6.

Otis Library and Museum. Photographer Geoffrey Coelho will be displaying his Berkshire region photographs.

Saturday, September 5:

CET hazardous waste mini-collection, 8:30 to 11:30, in Lenox. cetonline.org, click under "Green for Homes" for more info.

Meetinghouse Fundraiser Concert, 7 p.m. See p. 8.

Thursday, September 10:

Foot Care clinic, 9 to 11:30, town hall meeting room. Call Maryellen Brown 528-1598 for an appointment.

Free blood pressure clinic, town hall, 2 to 3 p.m.

September 12: Berkshire Hatchery Fishing Derby, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, September 19:

Final outdoor yoga, with Kathleen Kraft, 11 a.m. to noon, Monterey Community Center. See p. 19.

Housatonic Heritage Walk at Bidwell House, "Champion Oaks," 10 a.m. See p. 11.

Lenox Contra Dance, live music by Coincidance—Tony Pisano guitar, accordion, mandolin; Eric Buddington fiddle; Eric Martin fiddle, viola, feet; Sue Janssen piano; Josh Pisano percussion; with calling by Linda Leslie from Rhode Island. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., beginners session at 8. All dances taught. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. LenoxContraDance.org. Contact 528-4007. lenoxcontradance.org

Sunday, September 20:

Housatonic Heritage Walk. See p. 11.

Monterey News deadline.

Tuesday, September 22: Sewing circle, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Monterey Library.

September 24: Council on Aging, cruise on the Erie Canal. See p. 3.

Saturday, September 26:

Bidwell House Museum, Families in the Wild, outdoor adventure day, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. See p. 11.

Miss Paula and the Twangbusters, free concert, 7:30 p.m., Knox Trail Inn, East Otis. Dinner at 6 by reservation, call 269-4008. Sponsored by Otis Cultural Council. See p. 3.

Sunday, September 27:

Appalachian Trail Hike to Jug End, with post-hike yoga, 10 a.m. Kellogg Center, S. Egremont. See p. 11.

Housatonic Heritage Walk. See p. 11

Monday, September 28: Adult book group will discuss *Under the Wide and Starry Sky* by Nancy Horan. 7:30 p.m., Monterey Library.

Tuesday, September 29: Sewing circle, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Monterey Library.

Wednesday, September 30: Lake Summit—working group looking at lakes issues. See p. 2.

Monterey News

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also be sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4007 or email montereynews9@gmail.com.

Save the Dates

October 3: Health Fair, Monterey Fire House. See p. 3.

October 3 and 4: Housatonic Heritage Walks. See p. 11.

October 10: Oktoberfest, Monterey Community Center. See p. 19.

SARAH JACKSON MFA, MA
JUNGIAN ANALYSIS & PSYCHOTHERAPY

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C.G. Jung

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Contributions from local artists this month:
George Emmons, p. 12; Sudi Baker, p. 18

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